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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/612,499	07/02/2003	Edward L. Galloway	1779-7	3484
7590	08/15/2006		EXAMINER EREZO, DARWIN P	
John S. Egbert Harrison & Egbert 7th Floor 412 Main Street Houston, TX 77002			ART UNIT 3731	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 08/15/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/612,499	GALLOWAY ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Darwin P. Erezo	3731

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ . |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/27/03</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 10/27/2003 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
3. Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
4. Claim 1 recites the limitation "said trigger" in line 12. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. **Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US 6,190,398 to Schraga.**

(claims 1 and 14) Schraga discloses a system capable of testing blood coagulation, the system comprising a bleeding time tester or lancing device having a

body **80** comprising a top surface and a bottom surface; a cutting blade **32** having a first position located within the body and a second position located outside the body; a switch actuator **82** positioned so as to extend outwardly of the body, the switch actuator being movable between a pre-actuating position and an actuating position, the switch actuator cooperative with the cutting blade so as to move the cutting blade from the first position to the second position; a tripper comprising a housing **20** mounted on the body; a slide frame **25** slidably interconnected to said housing, the slide frame having a surface cooperative with the switch actuator, the slide frame movable between a pre-activated position and an activated position; and an actuator button **62** mounted on the housing and cooperative with the slide frame.

(claim 2) The actuator button is positioned located above the centerline of the cutting blade while in the second position (Fig. 6).

(claim 3) The slide frame **25** slides in a direction that is parallel direction to the bottom surface of the body. Again, the device can be rotated and have different top and bottom surfaces.

(claim 4) The slide frame includes a safety tab **88 or 89** that retains the slide frame in the preactuating position after the device has been activated.

(claims 5, 6, 15 and 20) The slide frame is an inverted U-shaped and the actuator button has a pin **64** to cause the slide frame to move to the activated position, wherein the pin is received in a slot opening of the housing (the opening for the actuator button).

(claim 7 and 16) Spring means **44** urges the slide frame toward the activated position.

(claim 8) The actuator button **20** initially pivots downwards.

(claims 9 and 17) The actuator button has legs **64** that extends downwardly.

(claims 10 and 18) Spring means **44** also urges the actuator button upwardly.

(claims 11 and 19) The slide frame has a first side, a second side and a bottom abutment (Fig. 6).

(claim 12) The housing includes channels formed in element **26** for receiving each of the first and second sides of the slide frame.

(claim 13) Element **47** of the slide frame is located on each side of the slide frame and can be viewed as an inverted U-shaped slot that engages each pin or arm **64** that extends from the actuator button.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Darwin P. Erezo whose telephone number is (571) 272-4695. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-4:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anhtuan T. Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-4963. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Darwin P. Erez
Examiner
Art Unit 3731

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